

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Presently amended) A domain management system, comprising:
a domain identification means, name identifier coupled to receive input from a party seeking access to an agent accessing the domain management system, the agent acting on behalf of a registrant of an active domain name, for accepting and confirming identity the domain name identifier generating a request for and accepting identification of a domain name to be an the active domain name;

means for determining an authorization checker responsive to an input from the agent to check whether an administrative or technical contact for the active domain name if the party has identified to the domain management system that the agent has authority to alter information about the active domain name and, if the party agent lacks authority for the active domain name, determining the authorization checker generating a communication to the administrative or technical contact to determine if the party agent should be given authority for the active domain name; and

an information change means for accepting engine responsive to a request from the agent to change information about the active domain name, the information change engine generating passing an information change request toward that changes the information about the active domain name in the shared registry system a database authoritative for like information about domain names, and generating a confirmation message displayable to a party using the domain management system.

2. (Currently amended) The domain management system of claim 1, wherein the information change ~~means~~ engine resides on a server of an accredited registrar.

3. (Currently amended) The domain management system of claim 1, wherein the information change engine generates a confirmation message indicating success of the information change request ~~means resides on a server capable of directly accessing a shared registry system.~~

4. (Currently amended) The domain management system of claim 1, wherein the information change engine ~~means~~ resides on a server coupled to a second server capable of directly accessing a shared registry system.

5. (Original) The domain management system of claim 4, wherein the information change request is passed through the second server and to the shared registry system.

6. (Currently amended) The domain management system of claim 1, wherein, in response to determining that the agent is authorized for the active domain name, the authoritative database is a shared registry system information change engine causes display of a screen listing a plurality of functions for changing information within a zone file for the active domain name.

7. (Currently amended) A domain management system, comprising:
an authentication interface generator that generates a message that, ~~when received by an operator terminal,~~ at least in part causes display on the an operator terminal of a request for ~~authentication~~ identification information from a party an operator seeking access to the domain management system;

a domain identification interface generator that generates a message that, ~~when received by the operator terminal,~~ at least in part causes display on the operator terminal of a request for input from ~~an~~ the operator seeking access to the ~~domain management system~~ of a domain name to be an active domain name;

an authentication checker that determines, in response to the identification information, if a contact identified within a zone file for the active domain name has authorized the operator to make changes to information within the zone file for the active domain name; and

an information change engine that accepts requests to responsive to the authentication checker and to an information change request input by the operator, the information change engine causing a change to information about the active domain name in the zone file for the active domain name, passes an information change request to an authoritative database for like information about domain names, and generates generating a confirmation message that, when received by the operator terminal, at least in part causes display of a screen on the operator terminal confirming execution of the information change request.

8. (Currently amended) The domain management system of claim 7, further comprising a diagnostic utility engine, responsive to input by the operator of adapted to receive at least one diagnostic request, the diagnostic utility engine executing about the active domain name and to execute a corresponding diagnostic utility corresponding to the at least one diagnostic request on the active domain name, the diagnostic utility engine returning a result of the diagnostic utility on the active domain name to a screen on the operator terminal.

9. (Original) The domain management system of claim 8, wherein the diagnostic utility accesses a shared registry system when executed.

10. (Original) The domain management system of claim 9, wherein the diagnostic utility produces as an output data representing at least a portion of zone file information.

11. (Original) The domain management system of claim 8, wherein the diagnostic utility accesses a plurality of name servers when executed.

12. (Original) The domain management system of claim 7, wherein the information change engine resides on a server of an accredited registrar.

13. (Original) The domain management system of claim 7, wherein the information change engine resides on a server capable of directly accessing a shared registry system.

14. (Original) The domain management system of claim 7, wherein the information change engine resides on a server coupled to a second server capable of directly accessing a shared registry system.

15. (Original) The domain management system of claim 14, wherein the information change engine is passed through the second server and to the shared registry system.

16. (Presently amended) The domain management system of claim 7, ~~further comprising a module that determines whether the operator is authoritative for the active domain name~~ wherein, in response to determining that the agent is authorized for the active domain name, the information change engine causes display of a screen listing a plurality of functions for changing information within a zone file for the active domain name.

17. (Presently amended) The domain management system of claim ~~[[7]] 16, further comprising a module that determines whether the operator is authoritative for the active domain name and~~ wherein, if the operator is not authoritative for the active domain name, the authentication checker determines if the operator should be made authoritative for the active domain name.

18. (Previously presented) The domain management system of claim 7, further comprising a function selection interface generator that generates a message at least in part providing a graphical user interface with a plurality of selectable functions for managing a domain name.

19. (Previously presented) The domain management system of claim 7, further comprising a function selection interface generator that generates a message at least in part providing a graphical user interface with a plurality of selectable functions for managing a domain name, the plurality of selectable functions including domain name diagnostics and zone file change.

20. (Presently amended) The domain management system of claim [[17]] 16, further comprising a diagnostic utility engine, responsive to input by the operator of ~~adapted to receive~~ at least one diagnostic request, the diagnostic utility engine executing about the active domain name and to execute a corresponding diagnostic utility corresponding to the at least one diagnostic request on the active domain name, the diagnostic utility engine returning a result of the diagnostic utility on the active domain name to a screen on the operator terminal.